MONSON W. BLISS.

JULY 1, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BAKER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 5920.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5920) granting an increase of pension to Monson W. Bliss, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted, and the passage of the bill is recommended.

HOUSE REPORT.

This bill as amended proposes to increase the pension of Monson W. Bliss, of Kansas City, Mo., from $12 to $24 per month. He served from August 14, 1862, to August 17, 1865, in Company D, Twentieth Michigan Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged; and also in Second Battalion Veteran Reserve Corps.

The records show that he was treated while in service for catarrh and was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps on account of feebleness of constitution. He has never filed a claim for pension under the general law. He filed and established a claim under the act of June 27, 1890, for double inguinal hernia, and was pensioned therefor at $10 from date of filing to December 4, 1891, and $12 thereafter. His hernia did not originate until 1880, and he has no disability which is alleged or shown to be due to service.

He is shown by evidence filed with this committee to have locomotor ataxia and to be totally disabled for manual labor thereby, and that such condition is not due to soldier's own vicious habits. He is in a very bad condition, but he is not shown to be so disabled as to require regular and constant or even frequent and periodical aid and attendance of another person.

He is about 55 years of age and lives at Kansas City, Mo., and is poor; has a wife and child to support.

An increase of pension to $24 is warranted on the ground of his present condition. It is not due to his service, and therefore the above increase is all that can be justified.

The bill is reported back with the recommendation that it pass.

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